

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 008400

13

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66623

DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:KAKURZE

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:KAKURZE

----- 101388

R 150527Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPAC FOR POLAD

S E C R E T STATE 008400

EXDIS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM KABUL DATED JANUARY 14, 1974 SENT  
ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ISLAMABAD, LONDON, MOSCOW, NEW  
DELHI, PARIS, TEHRAN IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

S E C R E T KABUL 0253

EXDIS

DEPT PLS PASS CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, AK, PK, UR, KR

SUBJECT: FRENCH ARMS FOR PAKISTAN (?) AND SOVIET ARMS FOR AFGHANISTAN

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 0163; (B) ISLAMABAD 0306; (C) USDAO ISLAMABAD  
070315Z JAN 74; (D) STATE 002423

SUMMARY: DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ABDULLAH ON JANUARY 12 STRESSED  
CONCERN OVER REPORTED PAK-FRENCH ARMS DEAL. WITH REGARD TO  
AFGHANISTAN'S ARMS BUILD-UP, ABDULLAH SAID THAT THERE HAVE BEEN  
NO "MAJOR" NEW ARRANGEMENTS. ACTION REQUESTED: MORE INFORMATION  
ON PAK-FRENCH ARMS DEAL AND DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE AS TO WHAT MORE  
I SHOULD TELL GOA ABOUT IT. END SUMMARY.

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1. DURING COURSE OF TOUR D'HORIZON WITH DEPFONMIN ABDULLAH ON  
JANUARY 12, HE MENTIONED REPORTS OF A TRILATERAL DEAL UNDER WHICH  
PAKISTAN, WITH FINANCIAL AID FROM PERSIAN GULF STATES, WOULD  
OBTAIN ASSISTANCE FROM FRANCE TO SET UP MUNITIONS PLANTS IN

PAKISTAN, INCLUDING FOR THE PRODUCTION OF MIRAGE AIRCRAFT. HE EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE CONCERN AT WHAT HE NATURALLY TERMED THIS UNHELPFUL INVOLVEMENT OF THE FRENCH IN THIS REGION AND SAID HE HAD SPOKEN TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY HERE ABOUT IT. HE ALSO REVEALED THAT ONE OF HIS SOURCES ON THIS MATTER HAS BEEN THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR.

2. I TOLD ABDULLAH THAT IT IS NOT CLEAR TO ME WHETHER REPORTS OF SUCH A DEAL ARE ACCURATE BUT THAT I WOULD SEE WHAT I COULD LEARN WHICH I COULD SHARE WITH HIM.

3. I THEN SAID TO ABDULLAH THAT WE HAD HEARD REPORTS EMANATING FROM PAKISTAN OF LARGE SOVIET ARMS DELIVERIES TO AFGHANISTAN. I SAID I THOUGHT THESE REPORTS WERE EXAGGERATED AND DID NOT WANT TO PRY INTO AKGHANISTAN'S MILITARY SECRETS, BUT I WONDERED IF HE CARED TO COMMENT. ABDULLAH RESPONDED BY REFERRING TO PRESIDENT DAOUD'S DESCRIPTION TO CHARGE LEWIS OF AFHGANISTAN'S ARMS POLICY (KABUL 7332, OCTOBER 16, 1973). HE STRESSED THAT, ALTHOUGH IT WOULD GREATLY PREFER TO SPEND ITS RESOURCES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOA HAD NO CHOICE, IN LIGHT OF PAKISTAN'S POLICIES, BUT TO IMPROVE ITS MILITARY CAPABILITIES. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THIS IMPROVEMENT INVOLVED NO RPT NO "MAJOR" NEW ARRANGEMENTS. HE ALSO TOOK A CRACK IN THIS CONNECTION AT THE PRC, NOT ONLY FOR ITS MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN BUT ALSO FOR ITS UNSPECIFIED MEDDLING IN INTERNAL AFGHAN AKFAIRS.

4. COMMENT. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ON PAK-FRENCH DEAL IN ADDITION TO REFS A, B AND C AND ALSO DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE AS TO WHAT MORE I MIGHT TELL GOA ABOUT ANY SUCH DEAL. AS FAR AS SOVIET ARMS DELIVERIES TO AKGHANISTAN ARE CONCERNED, I BELIEVE I HAVE GONE AS FAR AS I SHOULD FOR TIME BEING AT SENIOR AFGHAN LEVEL PURSUANT TO REF D. WE WILL OF COURSE CONTINUE TO ATTEMPT OBTAIN HARD INFORMATION ON ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM OTHER SOURCES. PLEASE NOTE THAT ACCORDING TO ABDULLAH, THE INDIANS SEEM TO KEEP HIM INFORMED ABOUT PAKISTAN'S ARMS POLICY, WHICH MAKES ME QUESTION STILL MORE (SEE KABUL 8748) WHETHER INDIANS WOULD OR COULD BE HELPFUL IN SLOWING RATE OF AFGHAN ARMS BUILD-UP.

ELIOT

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UNQUOTE RUSH

SECRET

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## Message Attributes

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